World Alliance News Letter

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Commitment

Lent is a time of self-examination, a time of self-commitment. It is a fitting season this year to consider earnestly our personal relation to the vast struggle for world order. We need each one to determine our particular responsibility in the international decision now in the making: whether to move forward from the agreements of Moscow, Atlantic City, Cairo and Teheran to the organization of peace, or backwards to the organization of future war. This is truly a time of decision for men and for nations.

Our church leaders have given clear guides to action. The Papal allocutions have outlined for Catholics cardinal principles of a just peace. The *Six Pillars* and *Program for Action* have provided Protestants with specific objectives. And *Pattern for Peace* has given both Christians and Jews a charter for concerted action. Our church leaders have presented a basis for forthright decision and action. The planks of their platform are firm: an international organization through the United Nations to maintain and develop the peace; a bill of rights for individuals and minority groups; aid for underprivileged peoples; economic collaboration at home and abroad; the whole supported by a thorough moral education. These are the major agreements they offer our church people.

Decision and action by responsible church leaders, however, do not fulfill religious responsibilities in this period. These responsibilities can be met only by church members across the land working together, only by the American people as a whole. The goals presented by the church leaders need to become our personal goals, our national goals. Their commitment needs to be reinforced by our own commitment. This is no time for religious people to indulge in inaction and irresponsible criticism. This is no time merely to wait and see. This is a time for whole-hearted and purposeful work.

Because of its power, this nation has the greatest opportunity of any people to help initiate a more orderly and just international society. It will be disastrous for our future as for the other nations, if the American people miss this opportunity through disunity, partisan politics, selfishness or fear. To stand as a united people without hesitation or equivocation for international security and cooperation — that is our national obligation. And no group has as good a chance to bring this about as our churches. Consequently an obligation of special importance is placed upon every church member.

For an active and personal commitment, we need the guidance of clear and compelling objectives. A living belief in the brotherhood of man as a practical goal is the main thing. Religious faith is the abiding ground of the conviction that men throughout the world *can* work together for their mutual protection, for their educational advancement, for higher standards of living, and for just relationships. Contemporary events themselves are revealing the technical possibilities of such cooperation. The global war is showing in a diabolical manner the potentialities of human ingenuity and cooperative effort. Indeed, scientific developments as a result of or incidental to the war have increased the potential tools of cooperation. After witnessing the organization of global war, any one would be inconsistent who thought the organization of the Four Freedoms an impractical matter. Mankind has crossed the threshold of the day when world wars, dire poverty, and primitive ignorance were necessary evils.

For an active and personal commitment to the struggle for world order, we need not only be guided by great ideals but also to be driven by realistic fears. It does not require much imagination to picture the future if the United Nations should take the wrong fork in the road ahead. Years of uneasy and impoverished truce, years of unstable alliances and counter-alliances, years of competition for strategic bases, years of rearmament would be followed by a war of the continents more destructive than the present war. As the weapons of World War II, the airplane and tank, appeared in World War I, the weapons of tomorrow are indicated in the blockbuster, the rocket plane and the robot bomb and plane.

Finally, an effective commitment to world order requires undaunted determination. There are no easy shortcuts as a handful of "peace now" advocates seem to believe. As if peace could be secured without the overthrow of the fascist gangsters! As if peace could be built upon injustice and the betrayal of allies! No, a just peace must be won, step by step through struggle and sacrifice.

The starting point is our own will to world order. During Lent let each of us face our personal responsibility to work in church groups, in community gatherings, through the ballot, through letters to representatives, for the organization of a righteous peace. Personal commitment is essential to a better world order.

Extending the Good Neighbor Policy

On the recommendation of Acting Secretary of State, Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., President Roosevelt on February 29 requested authority from Congress to broaden the cultural relations activities of the State Department. The cultural relations program now carried on in Latin America by the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, under Nelson Rockefeller, and also in China and to a limited degree in Canada, South Africa and Switzerland, would be extended to cover the world. The present program includes the exchange of educators, writers, scientists and publicists, the establishment of libraries and cultural centers, the sponsorship of radio and other cultural programs, the use of educational and informational films and the lending of technical experts in agriculture, public health, public safety and the like. The cultural program is a two-way street and includes the circulation in the United States of information programs from foreign countries. The extension of the program has great potential value for post-war collaboration. Mr. Stettinius said that the program would be of "inestimable benefit, at this time, in laying the groundwork on which the permanent post-war structure might be erected as well as in meeting the urgent current needs of the war period."

Steps Toward Relief

On February 17, the Senate joined the House of Representatives in authorizing an appropriation of $1,350,000,000 for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. The vote was 47 to 14. The bill is an enabling act, not an appropriation, but the vote is an indirect approval of UNRRA and makes it possible for former Governor Lehman and his staff to go ahead with relief plans. The sum authorized is one per cent of the estimated national income, a substantial though modest amount for the tremendous job.

The success of relief measures for the Greeks has led to the hope that help could be provided other occupied areas even before liberation. The Senate adopted on February 15 a resolution urging the State Department to negotiate an extension of the Greek relief arrangement to starving peoples in occupied Europe. This measure is an expression of sentiment rather than a relief measure, because no American funds are involved in the plan. The governments-in-exile are expected to finance any feeding plan supervised by neutral agencies. Public sentiment for an effort to help the little people of occupied Europe was shown in a recent Gallup poll.

Any relief efforts that can be organized for occupied areas before liberation obviously can meet only a small part of the total present and future need. It would be unfortunate if any should regard this proposal as a substitute for the larger program required. It therefore seems regrettable that one of the sponsors of the Senate resolution, Senator Gillette, also was one of the minority who voted against the authorization for UNRRA.

It was announced on March 1 that Great Britain and the United States have each agreed to underwrite $2,000,000 for the work of the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees. This board helps to care for some of the estimated 20 million homeless refugees, who have been able to escape from the Nazis. The plight of those unable to escape was indicated by a message from inside Poland:

> Last month we still reckoned the number of Jews in the whole territory of Poland as from 250,000 to 300,000. In a few weeks no more than 50,000 of us will remain. In our last moment before death, the remnants of Polish Jewry appeal for help to the whole world. May this, perhaps our last voice from the abyss, reach the ears of the whole world.

One encouraging story in the struggle for food has just been released by the Australian Information Bureau. Despite a 35 per cent reduction in manpower on the land since 1939, and despite shortages in fertilizers, tools and harvesting equipment, Australian farmers have increased their production not only to feed Australians and American troops in the South Pacific, but also to ship to Britain, Russia and India. The sheep population has been raised to 125 million, and large stocks of wheat have been built up.

Call for International Organization

The National Peace Conference, a consultative clearing house of thirty-seven agencies, on February 21 called upon citizens to support the immediate establishment of an international organization envisaged in the Moscow Declaration (see November 1943 NEWS LETTER). The text of the call is as follows:

> The National Peace Conference believes that international organization is essential to the maintenance of peace. Today progress is being made toward international consultation by the great powers through conferences and through the joint consideration of postwar problems.
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> Although the United Nations are cooperating in the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, as yet there is no indication that adequate steps are being taken to create the general international organization which the Congress of the United States, the Three-Power Conference at Moscow and other of the United Nations have declared to be necessary at the earliest practicable date. Such an organization is the immediate requirement for further progress.
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> The National Peace Conference urges its member organizations to present to their constituents the need for the immediate establishment of such a general international organization. As citizens of the United States we would be proud to see the initiative taken in this direction by the United States Government. Appeals should be forwarded to the President and to the Secretary of State, asking their encouragement of the setting up of such an organization at once.

The Continental Churches

Fragmentary reports gathered by Dr. W. T. Elmslie in the *Christian World* of London and by the Religious Division of the British Ministry of Information give some indication of the persistent struggle against Nazism carried on by European churchmen.

The persecutions seem to be increasing as the invasion approaches, and the Nazis attempt feverishly to bolster their "fortress." In Denmark, Bishop Damgaard of Copenhagen has been interned and the outspoken minister, poet and playwright, Pastor Kaj Munk, has been murdered (January). Pastor Munk wrote a stirring play in 1942 about a Danish knight who drove out the German invaders of the Fourteenth Century. He refused to be silent on the struggle of the Norwegian churches, saying:

> My Norwegian brother clergy . . . are fighting a battle for the same ideals as those for which I have sworn to fight. . . . It is better to have a Denmark in opposition to Germany than in opposition to our Lord, Jesus Christ. . . .

In Norway, according to a Swedish newspaper, 21 clergymen are interned, 3 of them in Germany. Bishop Berggrav is still under house arrest and one of the quisling bishops has demanded that all of the true bishops be interned or at least expelled from their homes. The quisling authorities complain that the Cross is being used as a badge "around which all the enemies of the New Order rally." In Lithuania, the Catholic Archbishop of Kannas has been arrested for refusing support to the creation of an anti-Soviet legion.

In Rumania, large numbers of Baptists and Adventists have been arrested and condemned to long terms of imprisonment. In Croatia, the Nazis are attempting to suppress the Orthodox Church. In German-occupied areas of Poland and the Ukraine, uniate Catholic priests have been forbidden to officiate. Many pastors of the Hungarian Reformed Church in Slovakia are said to be in prison charged with baptizing Jews.

The stories of religious resistance will long be cherished in Christian annals. The leaders of the Danish Lutheran Church have issued a strong statement condemning anti-Semitism. The Hungarian Ecumenical Council is giving spiritual, legal and material aid to "non-Ayran" Christians, persecuted under the racial laws. The Roman Catholic bishops of Slovakia have openly opposed religious exclusion on racial grounds, as the Protestant leaders earlier had taken a stand against anti-Semitism. The Orthodox Church in Greece has carried on relief work and has protested against the murder of hostages. The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Zagreb in Croatia has protested the application of racial theories, the suppression of the Orthodox Church and the forced conversion of the Orthodox to Catholicism.

In Holland, an appeal has been circulated for prayer —"in your room, your kitchen, in the hotel, in your ship's cabin"— for hostages condemned to death:

> They have acted according to their conscience as Dutchmen. They are ready to accept the consequences. . . . They count on the support of your prayers. . . .

The basis of this religious struggle was stated concisely by Pastor Paul Borchemius of Denmark:

> Nazism is not only a new political and cultural order, it is a new religion, an anti-Christian religion which provides a parallel to the fight of the first Christians against the tyranny of Rome and the worship of the Emperor. Now, as at the beginning of Christianity, earthly powers wish to reign in the souls and interior lives of men as well as in their public life.

The most courageous churchmen of Europe are opposing revenge after liberation. As the Norwegian Christian leaders wrote, "Evil should be punished, not for the sake of revenge, but because the justice of God demands that it should be so;" punishment, moreover, should be supplemented with an effort at reconciliation with those who repent their crimes.

United Nations Collaboration

A reassuring sign that United Nations collaboration means more than Anglo-Soviet-American collaboration was given by James B. Reston in the *New York Times* on February 20. He reported that the European Advisory Commission, set up at the Moscow Conference and composed of Ambassador John G. Winant, the Soviet Ambassador, Fedor T. Guseff and Sir William Strang, has agreed "to establish effective contact with the representatives of the occupied countries of Europe and consult with them on the surrender and military and economic disarmament of Germany." The contact will be arranged through an "Inter-Allied Committee on Foreign Affairs" representing France, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and Yugoslavia. Such an arrangement should help to assure consideration of the interests of the smaller countries. It does not replace the regular diplomatic machinery, but it supplements and reinforces that machinery. The new procedure is a heartening indication that United Nations' decisions will not be based solely on power.

A speech on February 15 before the American Chamber of Commerce in London, by British Minister of State, Richard K. Law, showed the same hopeful trend. He opposed an Anglo-American alliance as liable to "create dangers far more acute than those it tried to avert." He pointed out that a world that has suffered for four years "under the Prussian jackboot" would not likely welcome "an Anglo-American governess." He urged that Anglo-American cooperation for freedom and peace, full employment, opportunity and high standards of living, should be carried on within "a world-wide political system."

Costs of the War

In calculating religious strategy for world order, the churches have to reckon with the costs of the war which condition and limit the opportunities for the victory beyond victory. From the religious point of view, the heaviest costs are spiritual in character. The moral degradation involved in aggression and tyranny, the spiritual decay in persecution, the moral laxity and brutalization in modern warfare, the cruelties and the persistent hatreds aroused by them—these are the heavy incalculable costs. They are particularly heavy in this war because the Axis war education is built upon the thesis that other peoples are inferior. The terrible inhumanity of Axis warfare, combined with the general inhumanity of mechanized warfare, will burden mankind for decades with its spiritual consequences.

The costs in human life are less difficult to compute, though accurate figures may never be known. The Soviet Union has undoubtedly suffered the heaviest losses. Her soldiers have borne the brunt of the land fighting and her civilians in occupied areas have been slaughtered en masse. Perhaps fifteen million Russians have been killed. Chinese losses, while not known with any certainty, must run to several million killed in the war and several million more killed by famine or disease caused in part by the Japanese aggression. It seems probable that 3 million Jews in occupied Europe have been murdered. The Poles, Jugoslavs, French, Greeks, and other imprisoned peoples account for millions more. German and Italian dead must also run into millions. The losses in life thus far are certainly larger than in the first World War. And they will almost certainly be far larger before the power of the Nazi and Japanese gangsters is broken. The cost of the war in talent and manpower creates grave obstacles to any quick reconstruction.

The economic costs of the war, with which this brief and partial survey deals, will likewise place a weary burden on the post-war world. The figures involved seem astronomical and unreal, but behind these figures is the real wealth of the nations, compounded of ingenuity, toil and sacrifice, which is being spent at an unprecedented rate in destruction. The economic values are important because they involve human values. The rate of post-war employment, reconstruction and abundance depends in large part upon the economic costs of the war.

Over a year ago, the Department of Commerce estimated that the Nazi effort at world conquest had cost the Axis nations well over $100 billion in military expenditures and the United Nations nearly $300 billion. The loss in national income in Axis-occupied lands was estimated at $100 billion. The total represents $230 for every person in the world, enough to buy a car for every family, or a $5,000 home for 100 million families. Even so, the figures are incomplete. They do not include expenditures for Japan or China. They do not include Italian expenditures before the Fascist attack on France. They do not take into account the economic destruction caused by bombs and battles.

The major amounts in the Commerce Department's estimates were $112 billion for the United States, $100 billion for Germany, $96 billion for the Soviet Union and $58 billion for the United Kingdom. For these and for the smaller and poorer nations, war expenditures have risen steeply during the past year. The American war effort has passed the $160 billion mark. The British war expenditures are more than $65 billion. Figures for the Soviet Union and Germany are not available, but the amounts must be large because of the all-out character of their war economies. A world total of $600 billion to date seems a conservative estimate.

To this colossal sum would have to be added a similar colossal sum to include the wealth destroyed in the fighting: the Nazi *blitz*, the scorched earth in China and Russia, the Allied bombings, the destruction of the present campaigns. It has been estimated that in the first World War, the cost of war expenditures was equalled by the cost of property destroyed. If any similar proportion should hold in this war, and there is little reason to believe that it should not, the cost of the war to date is well over one trillion dollars and is likely to be closer to two trillion dollars before victory is won.

This is, of course, a very rough estimate. It is difficult to compare war expenditures because of international differences in real prices. It is impossible to do more than guess at many elements in such a total. And the total does not take into account the scrap value of unused war supplies. Yet, with all necessary qualifications, such an estimate does offer a rough yardstick. Two trillion dollars is 7 times as large as the $277 billion estimated by the Bankers Trust Company to have been the cost of the first World War. It is 14 times as large as our total national income of $142 billion in 1943. It is large enough to provide protective foods, medical aid and education for the world's underprivileged for several years.

Such an expenditure of wealth will necessarily hamper post-war programs of reconstruction, and greatly delay them, unless there is a dauntless popular will to make a comparable effort for constructive purposes. It is obvious that most of this effort will have to be carried on largely by the victorious powers for the Axis will be able to provide but a small part of it, even with heavy reparations. The cost of the war should strengthen determination to organize the peace, for the price of machinery to keep and develop the peace will be very small compared with the price of aggression and the price of isolationism.

Relief for China

American efforts during 1943 to help meet China's immediate relief problems have been summarized by United China Relief as follows:

United China Relief sent to China for its 1943 relief program $8,612,155. The 1943 relief program covered five fields of effort – education, medicine and public health, child care, direct relief and self-help projects.

Inflation, which has brought special hardships to the white collar class living on fixed incomes made assistance to teachers and students of primary importance in 1943. Through the Associated Boards for Christian Colleges in China, the Church Committee for China Relief and the National Student Relief Committee, UCR gave aid in the form of scholarships, 'rice subsidies' and other grants to 3,000 faculty members and 20,000 students in middle schools and colleges.

In the field of medicine and public health, UCR continued its support of army and civilian hosschools: aided the transportation of medical suppitals and emergency medical service training plies and gave assistance to the personnel training program and anti-epidemic work of the Chinese Health Administration.

Members of the Friends Ambulance Unit, supported by UCR funds, transported drugs and medical supplies and maintained mobile medical and surgical teams on various fighting fronts. Through China Aid Council, UCR gave help to the International Peace Hospitals of the guerilla areas, and the clinics and health stations received help through the Church Committee for China Relief. Army hospitals and training schools, government medical schools and projects of the National Health Administration, were supported by the American Bureau for Medical Aid to China, which also set up a blood bank for the Chinese Armies in New York City, now enroute to China.

Training schools, nurseries and orphanages, and health nutritional projects for children received support through China Aid Council, the Church Committee, the Associated Boards for Christian Colleges, China Child Welfare and China's Children Fund.

Famines and floods, which took a heavy toll of lives in 1943, notably in Honan and Kwangtung provinces, called for special grants from funds reserved for emergencies. Other direct relief included aid to refugees and soldiers, grants to lepersariums and assistance in emergencies of many kinds, administered through the Church Committee for China Relief and the China Defence League.

Self-help projects – the industrial cooperatives, trade schools for refugees and orphaned boys and girls seeking means of livelihood, the smuggling of workers from occupied to Free China, and rehabilitation projects for disabled soldiers, were supported through Indusco and funds from the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O.

British contributions to China relief, according to the Church Committee for China Relief, amounted to $4,000,000 from July 1942 to December 1943; Canadian contributions probably total $1,000,000 a year; Australian and New Zealand gifts are notable.

One of the areas of direst need right now is Kwangtung Province of China. George E. Adams, Secretary of the American Advisory Committee for Southeast China, reported in February, after a trip to the stricken area, that a million Chinese have died of famine and cholera in the past few months. He stated that 80 per cent of some villages had been wiped out, that crop seeds and half-grown plants were eaten because people could not wait for the harvest. A plague of locusts, together with hoarding and speculation in rice, was blamed for the famine.

The post-war relief needs of China were outlined at the UNRRA Conference in Atlantic City by the Chinese delegate, Dr. Tingfu F. Tsiang, who stated:

Of the total estimated population of China, 200,000,000 live under Japanese occupation, 220,000,000 live in free China, and 40,000,000 may be called displaced persons. Relief among the population living in free China is taken care of by the Chinese Government and existing private agencies. Of the population living in occupied China, it is estimated that 30 per cent will need relief or 60,000,000. Of the displaced persons, 60 per cent will need relief or 24,000,000. The total needing relief will be 84,000,000.

Among supplies and services needed for relief and rehabilitation, transport comes first – both from abroad and within China – for without transport facilities, any other supply or service will be of no avail. Trucks, ships, a minimum of locomotives and cars will be needed. Next come medical supplies and services. Third would be food supplies. To take care of the population needing relief for six months 8,700,000 tons would be needed. Of this quantity, the Chinese Government will undertake to procure within China or from neighboring lands 5,500,000 tons. UNRRA will be requested to supply 3,200,000 tons, mostly of rice, and the rest in wheat or wheat flour and protective foods such as dried meat and milk powder.

Fourth would be needs for agriculture rehabilitation, which will make further food relief unnecessary. China will need fertilizers or fertilizer-manufacturing plants, tools, seeds, and breeding animals. Fifth, power plants and water works in the principal cities must be restored as soon as possible. Sixth, temporary shelters will have to be constructed. The materials needed must be found and procured in China, with the exception of nails, hinges, and carpenter tools.

In many lines of activity, China intends to invite the services of a number of foreign experts, to be supplied by UNRRA. It is estimated that the total tonnage required for relief and rehabilitation in China will be approximately 40,000,000 tons, of which about 12,000,000 will be shipped from abroad, and the total costs of these shipments from abroad will be between 400,000,000 and 500,000,000 dollars (U.S.).

PROGRAM NOTES

A Layman's Program for Peace by Samuel S. Fels seems to us one of the clearest statements on the United Nations that have appeared. Through Mr. Fels' generosity we are sending copies to all readers with this issue of the NEWS LETTER. Additional copies may be secured without charge from the author at 39th and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia 4, Penna. A discussion outline may be secured from the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, 8 West 40 Street, New York 18, N. Y.

Three-Faith Meetings

Seven important principles were stated by Protestant, Catholic and Jewish leaders in *Pattern for Peace* (see October, 1943 NEWS LETTER). The statement was publicized in religious and secular journals across the country, was broadcast around the world on the radio, and was read three times on the floor of the Senate. More is needed, however, if the principles are to serve their true purpose as guides to action. They need to live in the thinking of the American people and leaders. They need to be analyzed, discussed, remembered and acted upon. The combined judgment of 146 respected religious leaders needs to be given serious consideration in cities and towns across the United States.

A number of meetings have been held on the *Pattern for Peace*. It has been presented in "Win the War — Win the Peace" Institutes, discussed in many local forums and presented over the air. The most impressive meeting that has as yet come to our attention was held in Syracuse, New York, on February 15. The program constitutes an example and a challenge to other cities across the land.

The meeting was organized by the religious leaders of Syracuse. A committee of three, representing the three faiths, was given responsibility for arranging a mass meeting. The simple title "Civic Gathering" was used and three sponsors were listed: the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse, the Syracuse Jewish Welfare Federation and the Syracuse Council of Churches. Three national speakers were secured to speak on the seven principles: Dr. William B. Pugh, Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., Rabbi Samuel Wolk of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and Rev. Robert I. Gannon, S.J., President of Fordham University.

Two days before the mass meeting in Lincoln Auditorium, a full page advertisement was placed in the evening paper by "Syracuse laymen of many faiths to advance this common cause." The morning of the meeting, brief statements commending the gathering by the Most Rev. Walter A. Foery, Rabbi Benjamin Friedman and Rev. Alfred Z. Taylor appeared in the morning paper, together with the text of *Pattern for Peace*, and a front-page editorial.

Some 3,500 citizens of Syracuse were present when the meeting opened at 8:00 P.M. Bishop Foery gave the invocation and Dr. Calvin Thompson of the Council of Churches stated the purpose of the meeting. The three speakers were introduced in turn by the Rt. Rev. Malcolm E. Peabody, Rabbi Friedman, and the Rt. Rev. Msgr. David F. Cunningham. Dr. Pugh spoke on the first two points, Rabbi Wolk on the third and fourth, and Father Gannon on the last three. The audience sang "America the Beautiful," "Battle Hymn of the Republic," and the National Anthem, accompanied by the Central High School orchestra. Mr. Taylor gave the benediction.

The impact of this impressive meeting went beyond the meeting itself. Newspaper pictures and comment brought the principles to homes throughout the area. A front-page editorial in the *Post-Standard* said:

> Unless the people of this world change their thinking and their devil-take-the-hindmost philosophy, the next war is as inevitable as tomorrow morning's sunrise.
>
> Syracuse is taking the lead tonight in seeking to change the thinking of the little people all over the globe. They are not the ones who make wars, but they are the ones who fight them—and they are the ones who elect the men who determine national policy.

The excellent meeting in Syracuse deserves duplication in cities throughout our nation.

Methodist Crusade

Plans for the Crusade for a New World Order led by the Council of Bishops of the Methodist Church have been reported in previous issues of the NEWS LETTER. The Crusade is proving the value of a well-conceived program to bring principles of world order to members of local churches. The program also shows the value of concerted action by the various denominational agencies. As Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam has stated:

> All of the agencies of the Church were mobilized; the Council of Bishops, the District Superintendents, the Pastors and Lay Leaders, the Boards and Commission, the publishing interests and the press.

From January 9 to 28 mass meetings were held in 85 cities with a combined attendance of some 200,000. About 100,000 posters by Howard Chandler Christy were distributed and over 200,000 post card pledges for mailing to soldiers were distributed in the meeting. In addition, 50,000 copies of *Prayers for a New World Order* and 75,000 copies of the handbook, *Primer for Action,* have been sent out.

The mass meetings are being followed by a house-to-house visitation of Methodist families in which a leaflet entitled *Your Part* is being used. Thousands of letters have already reached Washington and the goal is a million such letters. Some 2 million copies of the challenging folder containing suggestions on writing representatives are being distributed in this manner. Sunday, March 26, will be celebrated as a day of consecra-

tion and over 500,000 copies of the *Order of Service* have been ordered thus far. The curriculum for adult classes, youth division, summer institutes and training conferences have been revised to carry the same emphasis. Machinery in each of the 578 districts of the Church is counted on for subsequent action if necessary.

The basic thesis of the campaign is of value for all of our religious groups. This thesis has been expressed by the Council of Bishops as follows:

> The peoples of the world must choose between international collaboration, in which lies the possibility of enduring peace and isolationism, in which lies the certainty of continuing war.
>
> As Christians, we choose international collaboration and such international organization as, in the judgment of experts, may be necessary to establish world law and order based upon justice and brotherhood.
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> As Christians, we reject isolationism which subordinates the well-being of the world to national self-interest, and denies the Christian doctrine that all men are children of one Father and are members of one family.

It is good news that the Northern Baptist Convention, the Disciples of Christ, and undoubtedly other denominational groups are planning similar programs.

Notes on Relief

The American Red Cross campaign during March for $125,000,000 is of concern to every citizen. The work of the Red Cross in collecting life-giving blood plasma, in preparing surgical dressings, in providing nurses and helpers for the Medical Corps and providing canteens and entertainment for troops overseas is a vital part of the war effort. That this work should be supported by voluntary contributions is a good American tradition deserving the full cooperation of our churches.

Note on Conservation

On February 24 War Food Administrator, Marvin Jones, called for greater efforts to combat waste of food. He pointed out that carelessness in the kitchen and "dainty" table manners which wasted food were crimes during wartime. He estimated that perhaps as much as 20 per cent of the country's food is being wasted, and stated that investigations of city garbage collections show that 225 pounds of food per person is being thrown away annually.

Kits for Russian Families

Russian War Relief, with headquarters at 11 East 35 Street, New York, has launched a campaign asking more than 3,000,000 American families to fill simple household kits for Russian families who are moving back into recaptured territories. Nazi destruction often creates shortages in the smallest necessities required for rehabilitation. The following items are suggested as desirable elements in a relief kit: cube or tablet sugar; dehydrated soup mix; evaporated milk; bouillon cubes; sweet cookies or hard candies; a small sewing kit with assorted needles and pins, black and white thread and buttons; white laundry or bath soap; knitting needles, size 3; roll of one-inch surgical adhesive tape; roll of two-inch gauze bandage; turkish hand towel; pair of adult's warm gloves; cigarettes or pipe tobacco (optional). A simple kit should cost from $2.50 to $3.50.

What Churches are Doing

Propaganda Analysis

If your church is planning a program on world order, the problems of democracy, or social action, the details of these ventures will be welcomed by the World News Letter.

Here are some examples of Church action:

In the communities of Dorchester, Mattapan, and Hyde Park, all suburbs of Boston, an Interfaith Committee on Propaganda Analysis has been formed for the purpose of recognizing, understanding, and treating both anti-racial and anti-religious propaganda; this Committee is a project of the Good Neighbor Association. The Committee's purpose is to take preventive educational action in churches, synagogues, libraries, schools, and newspapers by aiming directly at the types of misunderstanding and friction that are reported. Literature distribution, inter-cultural meetings, rumor clinics, and similar activities are other possible courses of action. In extreme cases reports are made to the police or to the F.B.I. when the sources of conflict and subversive propaganda are known. The Rev. David R. Hunter of Mattapan is the chairman of the Committee, and Prof. Gordon W. Allport of Harvard University is the consultant. Address: 525 River Street, Boston 26.

World Order Forums

A series of forums on "Planning for a Just and Durable Peace" are scheduled this winter and spring in a large number of churches throughout the country, outstanding examples of which are the Plymouth Congregational Church in New Haven, Conn., St. John's Methodist Church of New Rochelle, N. Y., the DeKalb-Nostrand Methodist Church of Brooklyn, N. Y., and the Community Church of Columbus, Ohio. Eminent speakers at evening sessions, prefaced by effective discussion groups at the supper hour, have drawn unusually large crowds.

County Youth Program

Sponsored by the Ramsey County Sunday School Association, the young people of St. Paul, Minnesota, have just completed a seven weeks "study of nations" program for local church groups. Each member group used the period for the study of one particular nation and then sent its representatives to the peace table at a recently held "Christian Youth Peace Conference." For further information, write to Young Peoples Council of the Ramsey County Sunday School Association, 403 Newton Bldg., St. Paul, Minn.

Miami Institute

The next in the series of institutes to be held under the auspices of the Church Peace Union and a group of national and local sponsors will be held in Miami, Florida, on April 12-14, on the subject "Pan American Cooperation in the United Nations to Win the War and Win the Peace." This week of April 9 is designated as Pan American Week, and Greater Miami—embracing the cities of Miami and Miami Beach—is preparing for a big demonstration, putting particular emphasis on Friday, April 14, which is Pan American Day. The institute will be sponsored by the Pan American League, and the director for the institute will be the League's Director, Mrs. Clark Stearns.

Among the subjects will be: "Pan American Unity and World Peace," and "The Relation of Pan American Unity to a World Wide Organization of the United Nations." The church view point will be presented from various angles. *Pattern for Peace* in which were expounded the principles adopted by the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish faiths, will be used as a guide. Among the speakers will be Senator Claude Pepper, the Hon. James P. Pope, Director of the Tennessee Valley Authority, Mr. Clark Eichelberger, Dr. Hamilton Holt, Dr. C. E. Silcox of Canada, Dr. William Agar, Dr. John I. Knudson, Dr. Carl Hermann Voss, Mrs. Francis Grant of New York City, Mr. Walter Head, former President of International Rotary, Mrs. Edgerton Parsons and others.

Study of Palestine

Dr. Walter C. Lowdermilk, who is Assistant Chief of the Soil Conservation Service of the United States, reports on the results of his recent survey of the Near East in a book that is highly readable and informative — (*Palestine,* Harper and Brothers, $2.50). The author removes the question-mark as to the "absorptive capacity" of Palestine. He answers with hard facts the opponents of further Jewish immigration into Palestine who constantly assert "Palestine cannot support any considerable increase in the population."

He proposes the creation of a huge reclamation project to be known as the Jordan Valley Authority. The Valley of the Jordan River offers a combination of natural features and a concentration of resources which set the stage for one of the most far-reaching reclamation projects — comparable to our TVA in scope. Full utilization of this depression and adjoining drainage areas for reclamation and power will, in time, provide farms, industry and security for at least four million immigrants in addition to the 1,800,000 Arabs and Jews already in the country.

SUGGESTED READING

UNRRA: Gateway to Recovery, National Planning Association, 800 21st Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C. 25 cents.

The best available study of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and the problems it faces. The text of the agreement is included in the appendix. Valuable for study groups.

Building for Peace at Home and Abroad by Maxwell S. Stewart, Harper & Brothers, New York. $2.50.

A brief, condensed volume designed to serve as a compendium of post-war plans with relation to world economics.

Where Is the Money Coming From? by Stuart Chase, Twentieth Century Fund, 330 West 42 Street, New York 18. $1.00.

A popular presentation of the complicated problems of post-war finance. This is the third volume in a series of six reports by Mr. Chase, entitled *When the War Ends.*

Foreign Policy of the Vatican by Sherman S. Hayden, Foreign Policy Association, 22 East 38 Street, New York 16. 25 cents.

This Foreign Policy Report presents a brief summary by a careful non-Catholic student.

The Vatican and the War by Camille M. Cianfarra, Dutton, New York. $3.00.

Behind this full-length report on Vatican policy during the war years is the experience of the author as a member of the Rome bureau of the *New York Times* from 1935 to 1941.

The Road to Teheran by Foster R. Dulles, Princeton University Press. $2.50.

One of the most valuable books on American-Soviet relations that has appeared in a long time. Professor Dulles of Ohio State traces the course of our generally friendly relations since our own Revolutionary War.

Twentieth Century India by Kate Mitchell and Kumar Goshal. May be secured from Institute of Pacific Relations, 1 East 54 Street, New York 22. 40 cents.

Some chapter headings of this interesting and informative pamphlet indicate the subjects covered: India Old and New; The Peoples of India; Village Life in India; How India Is Governed; Growth of Indian Nationalism; India and the War. Published cooperatively by Institute of Pacific Relations and Webster Publishing Company.

Peoples of Southeast Asia by Bruno Lasker, Knopf, New York. $3.00.

A careful sociological and economic study of Burma, Thailand, French Indo-China, British Malaya and the Netherlands Indies. Mr. Lasker is a member of the American Council of the Institute of Pacific Relations.

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